IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Rhonda J. Honeycutt and

Michael McClelland

Art Unit:

Examiner:

Serial No.

Continuing Application of United States

Application Serial No. 09/645,055

Attorney Docket: 011399-005-999

Filed:

Herewith

For:

IDENTIFYING ORGANISMS BY DETECTING INTRONIC NUCLEIC ACID OR ENCODED PROTEINS

Confirmation No.:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks and comments.

AMENDMENTS

In the Title:

Please change the title: IDENTIFYING ORGANISMS BY DETECTING INTRONIC NUCLEIC ACID OR ENCODED PROTEINS

to: "A METHOD OF IDENTIFYING TARGET ORGANISMS BY DETERMINING THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THEIR INTRONIC REGION NUCLEIC ACIDS".

In the Specification:

Marked up versions of all revised paragraphs, showing insertions and deletions, are included in Appendix A.

Please delete the paragraph immediately preceding the section entitled: <u>FIELD OF INVENTION</u> that appears on page 1, lines 4 to 6.